

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director.

FROM : Legislative Liaison Officer.

SUBJECT: Newport Speech.

DATE: 13 August 1947.

1. If, during your speech at Newport, you are asked for an example of how CIG coordinates the collection of intelligence, you might cite the study of port data which we are coordinating at the request of the Joint Merchant Ship Statistics Board. A list of the Board's user agencies is attached herewith, showing the varied types of information that are needed -- port facilities, dock space, connecting transportation facilities, defenses, fuel supply, available labor, tides, weather, hospital facilities, customs, etc. If each agency were to go into this work separately, it would swamp the various attaches. Therefore we coordinate the whole, tie it up in one bundle, see that the information is collected, and then disseminate it as appropriate.

2. You may wish to secure from ICAPS a copy of the latest OCD report, in order to have with you the current volume of requests from the various agencies and the number of requests we fulfill each month.

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WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER  
Legislative Liaison Officer

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Excerpts from letter from  
Hugh D. Butler  
Chairman  
Joint Merchant Ship Statistics Board  
to  
Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
Director of Central Intelligence  
dated February 11, 1947

"The Joint Merchant Ship Statistics Board was created by an exchange of communications between participating agencies on April 13, 1944. The agencies participating are:

United States Maritime Commission  
Commerce Department (Office of Domestic Commerce)  
(Office of International Trade)  
Treasury Department (Bureau of Customs)  
U. S. Coast Guard (Intelligence Division)  
Department of State  
National Federation of American Shipping, Inc.  
American Merchant Marine Institute  
Shipbuilder's Council of America  
Association of American Ship Owners  
American Bureau of Shipping  
U. S. Navy (Office of Naval Intelligence)  
(Naval Transportation Service, Office of the  
Chief of Naval Operations)  
U. S. Army (Office of the Chief of Transportation)

The express purpose of the Board is to submit recommendations to the heads of the participating agencies with respect to the consolidation and development of information on vessels, ports, shipyards and other related facilities with a view to eliminating duplication of effort in the compilation of more accurate and reliable marine data.